

Career Day Big Success

by Joy Mullen and
Lisa Konopka

This year's Career Day was an overwhelming success. Approximately fifty speakers from various professions were available to familiarize Ford students with their occupations and to answer questions regarding the different fields represented.

Mini-classes were held on fields ranging from architectural engineering and microbiology to music and fashion design.

The day, organized largely by the guidance department, had as its purpose making information on many different professions and careers available to Ford students. It was the hope that such information might make college choices easier for our students.

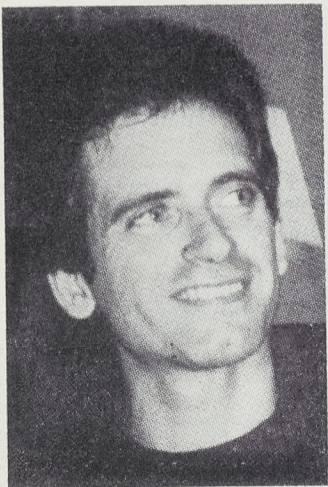
Chess Club Organized

by Marie Cassidy

Among the many new activities at Ford this year is the Chess Club. Under the direction of Mr. Campanaro, the club is composed of thirty members who compete against one another, and the finalists in each division eventually go on to compete against other schools.

The chairman of the Chess Club is Enrique Barrio, who is also responsible for having started the activity. When asked what the future plans for the club were, he replied, "At present we are occupied with trying to place the members in ranks. After that we are hoping to enter tournaments."

In Memoriam



It is with deepest sorrow that the Editors and Staff of *Highpoint* note the passing this semester of Brother Francis George Stelte, O.S.F. Brother served on the faculty of Bishop Ford for eleven years, and he was a member of our community recently enough to be fondly remembered by the present senior class. It is out of gratitude to Brother Francis for all he did for us that we dedicate this issue of *Highpoint* to his memory.

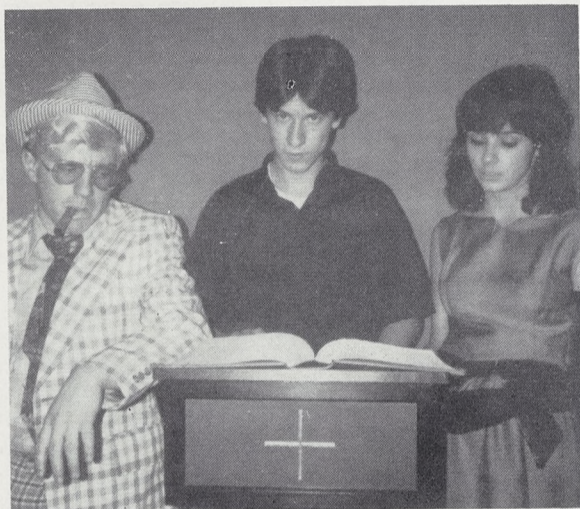
HIGH POINT

Vol. 5, No. 2

BISHOP FORD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

November-December, 1980

Seven Nuns Wins Four Stars



Top Left: "Sister" Kathy Parke and "Sister" Gloria Bischoff listen to a disturbing news broadcast. Top Right: "Sister" Kathy Parke and "Sister" Raudline Etienne receive Sister Superior's instructions. Middle Left: "Father" Danny Vira admonishes a reluctant Marty Maher and Andrea Bonfiglio. Middle Right: Marty Maher cons "Sister" Faye Purpura. Bottom Left: "Sisters" Clare Deodato, Faye Purpura, Raudline Etienne, Gloria Bischoff, Carol Ann T. Vezo, Kathy Parke and Dawn Bahnsen pray to St. Joseph.

Dance-a-thon Aids M.D. Fund

by Andrew Cole

On December 19 and 20 there was a 24-hour dance-a-thon to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation. The dance began at 7 P.M. on the 19th and ended at 7 P.M. on the 20th. The dance was arranged by the National Honor Society, the student council and many student volunteers.

Over 225 people registered to compete at the dance. Each contestant filled a muscular dystrophy canister to be eligible to take part. Each also got people to sponsor him for a specific amount of money for each hour of dance completed. Eligible contestants obtained at least \$75 in pledges in order to compete.

Other muscular dystrophy fund raisers have been a turkey raffle and a pie-throwing booth at which students got a chance to hurl pies at "brave" teachers.

Magicians Appear at Ford

by Pascale Bastien

At the beginning of this academic year a number of students approached Mr. Slow and invited him to be the moderator of a magic club they hoped to organize. Although Mr. Slow had no real knowledge of prestidigitation, he readily accepted the challenge. He hopes to learn about magic along with the students.

The fledgling magicians have many activities planned for this year. Among the field trips they hope to make is a visit to a demonstration of extrasensory perception at the Staten Island Museum. They will also be reviewing various magic shows aired on television this season. They will study witchcraft and set up their own magic library. Mr. Slow suggested that the club affords students a wonderful opportunity to learn while they're having fun.

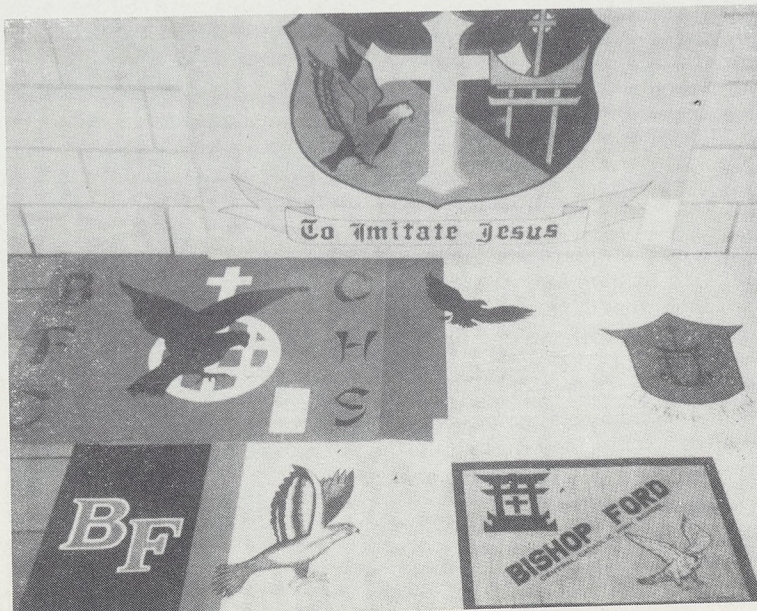
The club meets every Wednesday in room 275 B and new members are encouraged to join.

School Flag to be Unfurled

by Angela Diorio

Recently, the executive board of the student council, along with Mr. Campanaro, decided to have a contest to come up with the best possible design for a school flag. Any member of the Bishop Ford community was allowed to participate in this activity. Each person interested was asked to submit his design on a piece of oak-tag.

There were forty-three entries from all classes and from the faculty. The student council asked the faculty to vote on these forty-three en-



Flag Contest's Five Finalists.

tries since they felt this would be very objective and present a cross-section of views. The executive board voted on the forty-three entries, and the five highest of these are now the finalists. The five finalists are Dante Aubain, Miss Geyer, Bob Micara, Jim Petruccio and Mr. Tom.

Mr. Campanaro hopes to announce the winner at an assembly, and a big ceremony will precede it. Mr. Campanaro is happy with the outcome of the school flag contest and hopes to come up with a school song in the future.

American Dream A Possible Nightmare



For many, the "American Dream" is a college education, a small family, a high-paying job, a big house with a swimming pool and two cars in the garage.

The concept of the "American Dream" probably began with our ancestors who came to this country from lands in which they had worked very hard but hadn't been able to enjoy the fruit of their labors. They expected America to be a land of easy opportunity. When these poor and often naive people arrived here, they soon discovered that this would not necessarily be the case. Just to survive they had to work hard, and if they wanted to be really successful, they had to work even harder.

But our ancestors did survive and they succeeded in making things better for their children and for their grandchildren. Through hard work and dedication our parents

have been successful and have been able to achieve many of the things they'd dreamed of. According to the values of our society, they have achieved the "American Dream."

But have they? Some get so tied up in the things they are trying to achieve that they neglect their families more essential (if less tangible) needs; they come to act as though money could solve every problem. Family members become alienated from one another; sometimes children turn to drugs to fill the void.

We feel that the only element really essential to achieving the true "American Dream" is having a genuinely close relationship with one's family. To lose sight of the family's spiritual and emotional needs would be to lose sight of what America is really all about. And this would make the "American Dream" impossible.

Time for a Commercial Break

Every year at Christmastime the "purists" scream at us about the evils of commercialism. But aren't there certain aspects even of the commercial side of Christmas that help make it such a special holiday?

The Christmas season brings so much joy with it. It's the season during which one spends whole days shopping for others. It's so much fun to go from store to store, from department to department, to find just the right gift for those special relatives and friends. And putting up the Christmas tree is such a special event! Everyone participates by hanging special family ornaments and stringing popcorn. And the greatest honor is to be the one to put the star or angel on the top of the tree.

Christmas is truly a time of happiness. Everywhere one goes the Christmas spirit is evident. The stores are bright with lights and filled with decorations, Christmas trees glimmer in every window, wreaths abound, happy groups of people carol in every neighborhood and Santa Claus "ho-ho" at street corners. All of these things, commercial though they be in some respects, contribute to the wonderful holiday that is Christmas. It is the season during which families come closer together, a time to sit together and sing, an opportunity to forgive one's enemies and love one's friends.

So, why dwell on the negative sides of the commercial aspects of Christmas, when even commercialism contributes some good to the greatest holiday of the year.

AID ITALIAN QUAKE VICTIMS BY DONATING
USED CLOTHING AT FORD.

Censorship: A Restriction of Our Rights

Many Ford students are not aware of the degree of censorship to which they are subjected in our school library. Some, though, have noticed that certain pictures are often missing from magazines they attempt to use. These materials are regularly clipped from nationally distributed periodicals under a censorship policy which also directs that "controversial" books be stored in a room separate from our regular library shelves.

We don't mean to mislead anyone; students are permitted to check out "controversial" books if they are judged to be mature enough to read them by the librarian. "I believe in censorship," the librarian remarked recently, "I think it's perfectly right in a Catholic school."

Does this mean that the librarian should have the right to pass judgment on the maturity of Ford students and on the books they are allowed to read? We think not.

Nothing is more essential to a complete education than the freedom to explore new ideas.

We call for a full re-evaluation of the present library policy and its effect on the student body.

John Paul II: A Question of Emphasis

The emphasis in recent months by Pope John Paul II on sexual morality and the traditional role of women in society is discouraging to many. As a result of some statements by the Pontiff on such topics as clerical celibacy, homosexuality, premarital sex, birth control, abortion, divorce and the ordination of women, certain Catholics have felt a growing sense of alienation. For example, it has been estimated that in the United States 80% of married Catholics use some form of artificial birth control and four out of every ten Catholics between the ages of 15 and 25 have engaged in pre-marital sex.

Swiss theologian Hans Kung has suggested that too much authority and energy are being wasted on secondary matters.

It might be of greater relevance if the Pope were to address himself less frequently to such matters and more often to the devastating world problems and upheavals of today.

Merry
Christmas!

Smith on Reagan

by Edward Smith

It is now common knowledge that we have elected Ronald Reagan president. But where he has been and where he might take us is not so commonly known.

Ronald Wilson Reagan was born on February 6, 1911 in Tampico, Illinois. He has worked in two major fields: the entertainment industry and politics. In the entertainment industry he worked as a sports announcer and as an actor. In politics he has worked as president of the Screen Actors' Guild and has worked against such "liberal" governmental programs as the Tennessee Valley Authority and Medicaid. During the 1964 Republican National Convention, Reagan made a speech in support of a Barry Goldwater presidency which attracted the attention of California landholders. They asked him to run for governor of that state and he said yes. Advised by gubernatorial campaign aide Stuart Spencer to tone down his conservatism, Reagan took more moderate positions on unionization, welfare, etc., thus gaining the union, blue-collar, and minority votes, and achieving the governor's mansion. Although as a candidate he had promised to cut taxes, as governor he found that he had to pass three tax increases which added up to \$15 billion. He passed one large tax cut, a \$5.7 billion decrease in property taxes. He also introduced welfare reforms and union pension plans, thus keeping the support of both the unions, blue-collar workers, and minorities, and the conservatives, wealthy landholders, and white-collar workers. Ronald Wilson Reagan was perfect presidential material. He posed a serious threat to Gerald Ford during the 1976 presidential campaign and this year faced little trouble in gaining the Republican presidential nomination and in defeating President Jimmy Carter. He and the Grand Old Party now have four years to run things their way.

What can we expect from President Reagan? First of all, we can expect him to be successful in his relationship with Congress. The 1981 Senate will be a Republican-conservative one. There will be six more Republicans than Democrats and a dozen new Republicans there when it convenes in January. Many of those twelve new senators will be conservatives, like Al D'Amato, who have defeated powerful Democratic liberals like Jacob Javits or Frank Church. Church is the present chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and his position, like many of the other committee positions to be left vacant by outgoing senators, will undoubtedly be filled by a conservative Republican like Charles Percy. In the House of Representatives, the current Democratic majority of 117 will be cut by 66 to 51. Several key House committee and subcommittee positions will be open and could possibly be filled by Republicans. And many of the House democrats are conservatives who would be more inclined to agree with, rather than fight, President Reagan's policies. Ronald Reagan and the 97th Congress will have a good relationship.

So will Ronald Reagan and the American people. Reagan is a man of action. He will definitely do something as president. We can definitely expect to see an across-the-board tax cut of at least 22%, tax reforms, and at least a 3% cut in federal spending. As part of that cut, we will probably see a total scrapping of, or a tremendous cut in, the Departments of Education and Energy, and their budgets. And, as part of a "get tough with the Russians" policy, we will probably see an increase in the defense budget and in our appropriations to N.A.T.O. All of those actions will anger some people (such as minority groups, some Third World nations, the O.P.E.C. nations, and the Soviet Union), please others, and probably the bulk of the American people. And even if Reagan is not able to lower the inflation rate, he will be credited by most people with trying. The American people will like Ronald Reagan, maybe even love him. But only time will tell.

HIGHPOINT

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Faculty Focus:

Mr. Manley

by Sharon Healy

This month the Faculty Focus column centers on the achievements and personality of Mr. John Manley of the social studies department.

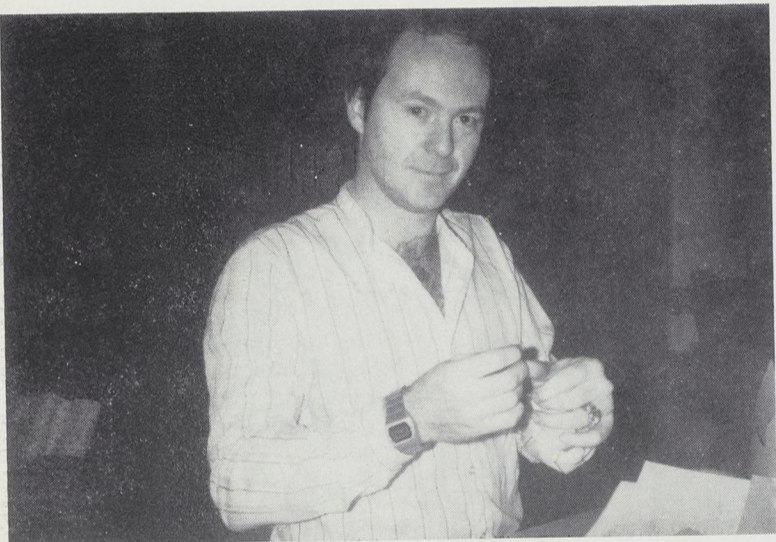
Mr. Manley was born in Jackson Heights, Queens. It was there that he attended St. Bartholomew's Grammar School, where, incidentally, he disliked social studies. He attended Mater Christi High School, now known as St. John's Prep. After graduating from high school, Mr. Manley went to Iona College in New Rochelle, New York. While in college, he was very active in extracurricular endeavors. He ran track, was president of the drama club, and formed Iona College's first fraternity, Simga Delta Phi, which is still in existence today. During his college days, Mr. Manley was very interested in working on the technical aspects of theatre production. He thought of pursuing it as a career but felt it would take too long to do his internship. Instead, he majored in European Political Sciences and graduated with a B.A.

After college, Mr. Manley enlisted in the navy. While serving his enlistment, he traveled to many places around the world; he has also visited twenty of the fifty states of the U.S.

While here at Bishop Ford, Mr. Manley has done lighting design for three drama club productions. He is the faculty advisor to the sophomore council and has organized a group called the Sophists. The Sophists is a philosophical, historical, conversational forum which any student may join.

Mr. Manley is presently attending Baruch College to earn an M.B.A. in financial management. He is married and has one son, Daniel. His outside interests are, at present, painting and listening to soft music. He is a member of Outstanding Young Men of America, which is a kind of "Who's Who."

Mr. Manley feels that Bishop Ford students are, "A challenge to my abilities of motivation and perseverance." He feels that the most outstanding quality of the faculty is its diversity.



Mr. John Manley

Sophist Society Initiated

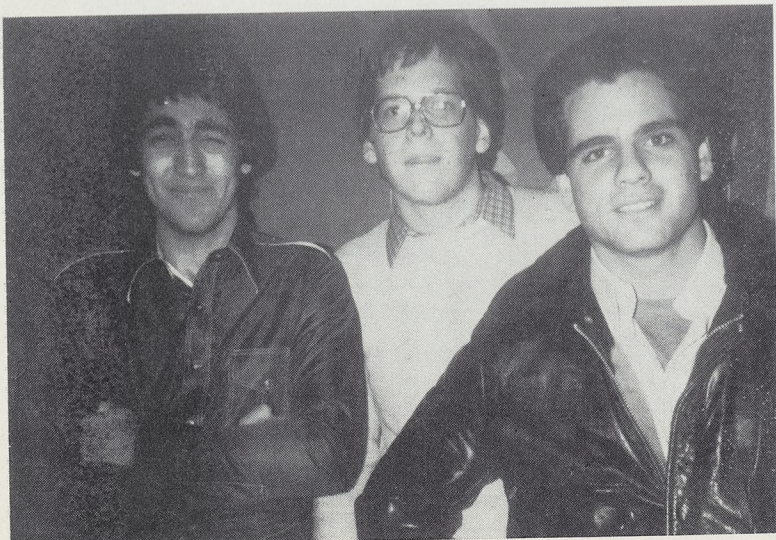
by Carolyn Palmer

One of the newest and most unique clubs at Ford this year is the Sophist Society, which concerns itself with the discussion of history from the point of view of philosophy. The club is moderated by Mr. Manley.

The group's moderator described it as, "An his-

torically oriented club which enables students to analyze past events and their future implications, and possible outcomes if these events could be altered."

The Sophist Society is planning to invite several guest speakers this year, and they are also hoping to have field trips to at least three places of interest.



Sophists: Robert Ricco, Matthew Sheridan, Robert Marisi

Student Spotlight:

Jimmy Cutrone

by Raudline Etienne

Every morning at 5:30, rain or shine, Jimmy Cutrone can be found swimming at the Prospect Park YMCA. He is a very dedicated swimmer and the captain of Ford's team.

Jimmy is a peer group leader, chairman of one of the

committees for the Bishop Ford Decathalon, a National Honor Society member and senior class president. When asked how he fits all these activities into his schedule, he honestly replied, "I dunno!"

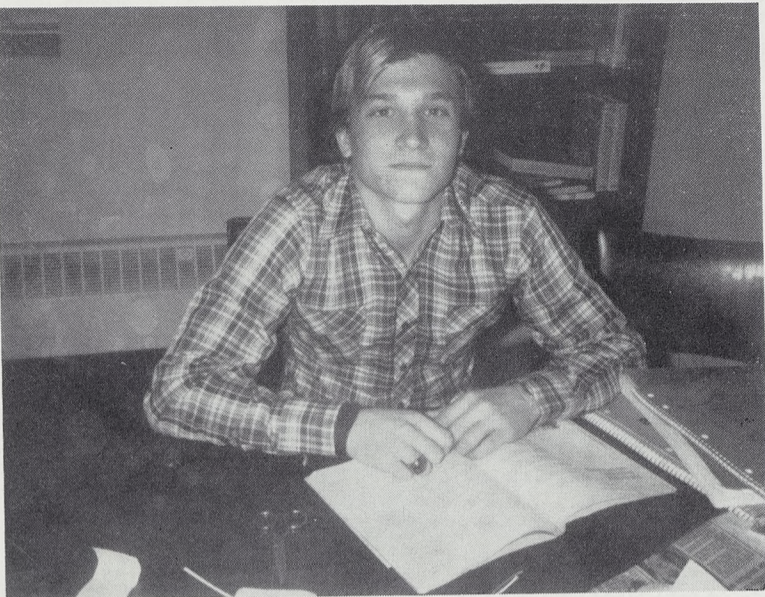
As senior class president, Jimmy is aware of the growing feeling that the student

council has not been doing a very dynamic job. "In order for the student council to work well, the student body has to come up with suggestions and be persistent in following them up," Jimmy observed.

One of the things Jimmy finds a good deal of satisfaction in is being a peer group leader. The peer group leaders, because of scheduling problems, no longer meet with the sophomores. They are, however, involved in the Christian Service Program, through which they volunteer their services to organizations such as hospitals.

Jimmy is hoping to have a profession in one of the sciences some day. He is considering going to Johns Hopkins in Maryland or to Buchnell in Pennsylvania.

He will leave Ford at the end of this academic year with many wonderful memories. He feels that, "Every year has gotten better."



Jimmy Cutrone

Inquiring Reporter

by John Settimo

Have you ever experienced any form of censorship in the Ford library?

Kevin Plien: "Yes, I have experienced censorship in our school library. I feel that it is very wrong since it limits the students' ideas and views on books and magazines."

Eileen McBrien: "No, I have never experienced any type of censorship in our school library. Now that I know that censorship is being practiced, I feel that it is wrong because it suggests that we students are not mature enough to deal with controversial material."

John Marinelli: "Yes, I have experienced censorship and it is very annoying since I would like to read any given

item as a whole, not with missing pages and fragments."

Robert Marese: "No, I have never experienced any type of censorship here at Ford. Although I haven't encountered this type of atrocity, I'm appalled by the idea of censorship in our school library. If materials have to be censored, they should not be in the library in the first place."

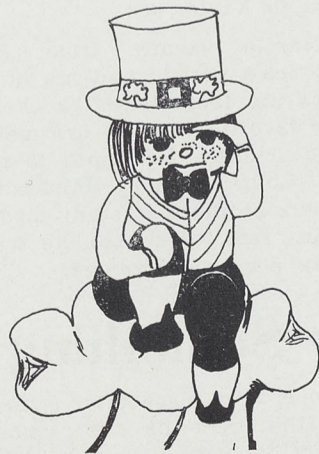
Michael Munoz: "Yes, I have experienced some sort of censorship. I feel that this type of thing should not occur since we are paying a good deal of money for our educations. The library should offer us all types of information, not just information they feel is suitable for us to be exposed to."

JOHN LENNON
1940-1980

"THE
DREAM
IS
OVER"

NOEL KINGSTON MUSIC PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Mary McGonigle
Noel Kingston
Paddy Farrell



Billy Burke
Marty Supple

IRELAND ON STAGE

At the Bishop Ford Auditorium

A program of Irish talent specially assembled to appeal to a wide range of tastes

January 24, 1981 at 8 P.M.

Soccer Team Brooklyn Champions

by James Rodriguez

Bishop Ford's 1980 soccer team are now the new Brooklyn Champs. The team won the prize by beating a tough Mater Christi 1-0 in the last game of the season. By winning this game they clinched first place and earned the

coveted title of "Brooklyn Champs."

The team did not do as well in the play-offs, however. After losing two consecutive games, they were knocked out of the running. They lost to Holy Cross 3-0 and to Xavier 1-0.

Ford Flogs Fontbonne

by Leslie Calandra

The Ford volleyball team, under the adept direction of Coach Finola Kennedy, had four wins out of the six games they played this season.

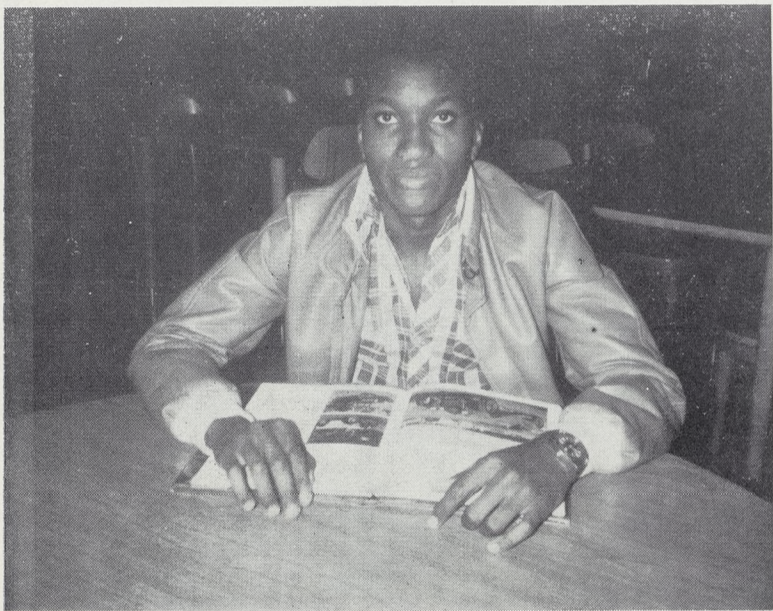
The members of the team are Susan Rail (Captain), Cathy Sweeney (Co-captain), Faye Purpora, Gina Barons, Chona Fabian, Eileen Cole, Almira Allen, Linda Dimonda, Mary Dopman, Carol Dopman, Ann Maher, Mary McEvoy and Rose Marie Mazzone.

To date the team has beaten St. Saviour's, Nazareth, McCauley and Fontbonne Hall. They've suffered losses to St. Edmund's and Bishop Kearney.

Fontbonne Hall was trounced by Ford during our last home game, the final score having been 3-0. Outstanding performances were turned in by Susan Rail, Cathy Sweeney, Faye Purpora, Chona Fabian, Gina Barous and Eileen Cole.

The team headed for the Brooklyn Championships on November 22 and 23.

Student Spotlight: Harold Kaura



Harold Kaura

by Mary Ann Svec

Harold Kaura certainly enjoys playing soccer — he's been playing the game for twelve years! What's more, Harold has been a member of Ford's soccer team since its very beginning three years ago. "I've enjoyed playing soccer for Bishop Ford for the past three years," commented the star athlete, "And this year has been the best."

Harold is a very versatile player, but he feels he plays midfield the best. According to Harold, one reason he is a successful player is that Mr. Messina, last year's coach,

helped him improve his technique.

This year Ford's team was led by Harold Kaura, and they were very successful. They won the Brooklyn Championship and they also made it to the quarter-finals in the City Championships where they lost to Xavier, 0-1.

Harold comes from St. Patrick's parish, and his hobbies are football and hockey; his favorite subjects are math and science. He hopes to go to Long Island University where he plans to study medicine. And, of course, he will play soccer in college.

Intramurals: Something for Everyone

by Thomas Cappiello

For the last four years Mr. Habib has been coordinating the intramural program here at Ford, as well as coaching the Boy's tennis team. The intramural program gives students who, for one reason or another do not choose to be members of regular school teams, the chance to take part in athletics and be recognized for their skill. The

games take place after school in the gym or the school yard, depending on the sport.

Fortunately for the freshmen and sophomores, the program is broken down into two divisions, freshman-sophomore and junior-senior. The top three teams in each division receive trophies for the sport they compete in.

The sports played at Ford on the intramural level are

track and field, football, basketball, volleyball, handball, backgammon, table tennis, hockey, bowling, weightlifting, team handball and swimming (if a pool is available).

Students who participate in a regular school sport are ineligible to participate in that same sport on the intramural level while it is in season.

Hoopsters in Third Season

by Mary Dopman

Ford's girls' basketball team began their season against St. Saviour's on December 17. The Falcons, in their third year as a varsity team, boast members such as Jean Powers, Susan Rail, Gerry Cregg, Dana Czark, Kathy Restaino, Jenny Gallagher, Mary Dopman, Mary Kawas, Gena Barous, Margaret Zatorski, and new-comers Ann Marie Ditizio, Carol Dopman and Eileen Cole. Bishop Kearney and St. Edmund's have given our team a tough time in the past, but with the line-up we've got this year, our girls are more than prepared to deal with these teams.

The Falcons will compete in the St. Francis Christmas Tournament during the last week of December against teams from all over the New York area. This will also be good preparation for them for a long-deserved playoff berth.

"The Falcons have arrived!" is a phrase Ms. Finola Kennedy, their new coach, expects to hear again and again this season. Ms. Kennedy is a graduate of Bishop Kearney High School and St. Francis College. She was on her college varsity team for four years, and she also coached the St. Thomas Aquinas parish team during that time.



Mary Kawas Takes Aim.

Crosscountry Season Ends

by Roger Menze

The varsity track team officially ended their cross-country season on November 8 at the City Championship. Their effort for a title began with the Brooklyn Boro Championship, which they lost by four points to their arch-rivals, Nazareth, at Prospect Park. The scene then shifted to Van Cortland Park, where they came up short in the Brooklyn-Queens, Private Schools, and City Championships.

The team has been consistently led by William Kelly, who broke the school record by seven seconds, Daniel O'Keefe and Andy Dignam. John Shammass, Jimmy Cutrone (Ford's swimming team captain), Thomas Burns, Freddy Rich and Clifford Bowen also gave it their best. One runner who suddenly retired, and two others who suffered injuries during the summer, seriously hampered the team effort.

But the team is hoping to come alive once again during the indoor season, since they have several top distance runners and a few sprinters who rank among the best in New York City.

Bowlers Strike

by Robert Osuna

On October 28 Bishop Ford's bowling team began their 1980-81 season. In their first two games they beat McClancy 3 to 2 and destroyed Mater Christi 5 to 0.

Unfortunately, the varsity team has yet to win a game. McClancy beat them twice. If the team is to win the championship, they'll have to be at the peak of perfection from now on.

by Maureen McLoughlin and Ingrid Mihailovich

The Girls' Brooklyn Track Championship was held at Prospect Park on October 29. Ford's top winners were Regina Corrigan, second place, Ingrid Mihailovich, fourth place, Maura Mahon, sixth place, Patti O'Connor, ninth place, Maureen McLoughlin, twenty-second place, and Madeline Pagano, twenty-third place.

On November 1 at Van Cortland Park the girl's freshman team competed in the Brooklyn-Queens Championship and finished in second

place, missing first by two points.

Outstanding performances were turned in by Barbara Menze, third place, Noreen Malony, fourth place, Maureen Powell, seventh place, and Dede Dixon, ninth place.

The City Championship was held on November 8 at Van Cortland. The team finished in fifth place with strong performances by Regina Corrigan, eighth place, and Patricia McAllister, twentieth place. The freshman team finished in second place with Barbara Menze setting a new school record of 10:39.

Nash Foresees Big Season

by Joseph Frega

It's that time of year again when the days get shorter and the nights grow longer. Outside there's a cold crisp December chill in the air. Now is the time when the gym at night seems magically to change into a huge arena filled with excitement. Another basketball season has arrived at Ford.

"Young," "strong" and "fast" describe this year's junior-varsity. Entering their second season playing as a unit, the team should once again reach the playoffs.

This year's varsity team,

headed by senior Tom Loverdi, Joe Corso and Tom Sina, will generate an offensive that may prove to be awesome. A well-rounded defense consisting of Richie Kenny, Glen Thomas and Mike Courtney will keep Ford in every game.

Coach Ray Nash will pace the courtside a little more relaxed this year knowing he has players like Chris Ryan, Rick Ferro, Willie Howard and rookie Bill Thurlow to round out the team.

When asked about the team, Coach Nash replied, "They're hungry, which in many cases is more important than having tremendous height or ability."



Joe Corso on the Line.